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 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT
 INFORMATION REPORT CD NO. [REDACTED]

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 14 December 1951

SUBJECT Shortage of Foundry Pig Iron

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1. The labor conference of the production managers of the Soviet Zone foundries held on 26 February 1951 in the central office of the VVB GUS in Leipzig (N 52/E 21) also dealt with the shortage of foundry pig iron. Grey cast iron is being strictly allocated during the present emergency in the supply of foundry pig iron and will remain so until new imports arrive. The allocations are based on a priority list of the Ministry of Machine Construction, dated 21 February 1951. In accordance with a decree concerning requirements for spring tilling and urgent repairs for transportation, postal vehicles, mining, metallurgical, gasoline and potash plants, this priority list comprises plants producing items for the following purposes: Wisent corporation, reparations, production requirements of 28 of the priority enterprises for 1951, exports, tractor and Diesel engines, agricultural machines and spare parts. *
2. According to information from the Ministry of Machine Construction, the Central Control Commission (SCC) is to supervise the use of pig iron and the type of castings produced. Castings for expansion and new construction are prohibited. A report concerning the parts which have been cast must be submitted to the Ministry of Machine Construction every two weeks. On 6 April 1951, the foundries and metallurgical plants had only a seventeen days' supply of foundry pig iron. Since September 1950, negotiations have been under way with the U.S.S.R. to import iron from Krivoirog, but they have not yet been successful. The lack of deliveries from Salzgitter has had disastrous results.

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- * Comment. For a copy of the priority list of the Ministry of Machine Construction, see Annex. A list of the 46 enterprises of the basic industries, the heavy machine construction industry, and the shipbuilding industry (Hochseeschiffbau), which have been declared priority enterprises for 1951, has been previously reported.

The two machine tool factories in Aschersleben (N 52/D 55) mentioned in the Annex, item 17 and item 19, are probably the VVB Machine Tool Factory, the former Billeter and Klunz Plant, and the VVB Machine Factory and Iron Foundry, the former Wetzel Plant.

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Annex

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Priority Enterprises of the Ministry of Machine Construction

Current
No

Nationalized Enterprises

1. Bergmann Borsig Plant, Berlin-Wilhelmsruh
2. Machine Construction and Iron Foundry, Goerlitz
3. Meerane Steam Boiler Construction, Meerane
4. Steam Boiler Construction, Hohenthurm
5. Heavy Machine Construction, Wildau
6. Machine Factory, Nordhausen
7. Machine Factory and Iron Foundry, Dessau
8. Conveying Equipment (Foerderanlagen), Koethen
9. Conveying Equipment, Leipzig
10. Crane Construction, Eberswalde
11. LEW Locomotive Construction and Electro-Technical Plant, Henningsdorf
12. TRO Transformer and High Tension Switch Plant, Berlin-Oberschoeneweide
13. Transformer and X-Ray Plant, Dresden
14. Elmo Dresden (sic)
15. Deutsche Niles Plant, Siegmars-Schoenau
16. Niles-Machine Tool Factory, Berlin-Weissensee
17. Machine Tool Factory, Aschersleben
18. Wanderer Milling Machine Construction, Siegmars-Schoenau
19. Machine Tool Factory, Aschersleben
20. Slotting Machine Factory, Chemnitz
21. Machine Factory, Meuselwitz
22. Bearing Factory, Fraureuth
23. Bearing Factory, Berlin-Lichtenberg
24. Bearing Factory, Ronneburg
25. Warnowerft (sic), Warnemuende
26. Shipyard, Wismut
27. Diesel Motor Plant, Rostock
28. Screw Factory, Finsterwalde

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